Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 063606 ORIGIN EB-08

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P R 222214Z MAR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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BRUSSELS FOR FAA; MONTREAL FOR ICAO REP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SG, IV

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SENEGAL

AND IVORY COAST

REF: DAKAR 1904

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH SENEGALESE REQUEST TO POSTPONE NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH WE ARE UNABLE TO GUARANTEE AT THIS TIME THAT TALKS COULD BE RESCHEDULED IN SEPTEMBER. HOWEVER, WE SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PROPOSE A DATE IN SEPTEMBER OR THEREABOUTS. EMBASSY MAY INFORM GOS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCORDINGLY.

2. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN TREATING IVORY COAST TALKS AS A SEPARATE BILATERAL ISSUE, WE HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS CONCERNING LIKELIHOOD OF MAKING ANY FURTHER PROGRESS WITH THE IVORY COAST OVER QUESTION OF INTERMEDIATE POINTS WITHOUT FIRST HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH SENEGALESE. IN VIEW

OF POSTPONEMENT OF SENEGAL TALKS, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY REQUEST GOIC TO AGREE TO A DELAY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS WE HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONCLUDE OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SENEGALESE. SHOULD GOIC OFFICIALS STATE THAT USG NEGOTIATIONS WITH THEM HAVE NO RELATION TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH SENEGAL, EMBASSY SHOULD NOTE THAT WHILE USG OF COURSE

RECOGNIZES IT NEGOTIATING WITH TWO SEPARATE AND SOVEREIGN COUNTRIES, BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE AN INTEREST IN AIR AFRIQUE ROUTE STRUCTURE. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO SEEK ASSURANCES THAT PAN AM'S TRAFFIC RIGHTS IN ABIDJAN WILL NOT BE LIMITED DURING THIS PERIOD.

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